

## **AUTHORIZED BASIC AND PARENTHETICAL TITLES FOR 0602 PHYSICIAN**

### **BASIC TITLES**

As part of DoD's authority to utilize title 38, the Department of Defense Instruction 1400.25, Volume 543, Pay Plan for DoD Civilian Physicians and Dentists (PDPP) was approved effective August 18, 2010. These titling practices are consistent with the Physician and Dentist titles adapted in the PDPP, to include the subject matter specializations identified below.

The title of ***PHYSICIAN*** will be utilized as the official title for positions in the 0602 job series. This title is the authorized basic title for NSPS positions, however, the delegated authority to use Title 38 also establishes the authority to determine titles utilized by the Veteran's Administration. Therefore, the title of ***PHYSICIAN*** will be utilized for all 0602 positions (both GS and NSPS).

### **PARENTHETICAL TITLES - (Definitions of Physician Specializations)**

#### **(AEROSPACE MEDICINE)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents conditions to which aircrews and passengers are particularly susceptible. It applies medical knowledge to the human factors in aviation, space flight and hyperbaric medicine. An Aerospace Medicine physician may serve as a flight surgeon.

#### **(ALLERGY & IMMUNIZATION)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents allergic and immunologic diseases and their complications (such as pollen, chemical and food allergies, asthma and AIDS). Physicians specializing in allergy and immunization are trained in evaluation, physical and laboratory diagnosis, and management of disorders involving the immune system. Such conditions include: asthma, anaphylaxis, rhinitis, eczema and adverse reactions to drugs, foods and insect stings as well as immune deficiency diseases (both acquired and congenital), defects in host defense and problems related to autoimmune disease, organ transplantation or malignancies of the immune system.

Allergy-immunology requires a three-year residency in internal medicine or pediatrics. Initial certification may be by the American Board of Internal Medicine or the American Board of Pediatrics. After residency, a two-year fellowship in allergy-immunology is completed, then certification may be obtained via the American Board of Allergy and Immunology.

#### **(ANESTHESIOLOGY)**

An Anesthesiologist is physician (MD or DO) trained to administer anesthesia and manage the medical care of patients before, during, and after surgery. They provide pain relief and maintenance, or restoration, of a stable condition during and immediately following an operation, or an obstetric, therapeutic, or diagnostic procedure. Additionally, they deal with the medical management of pain and provide support to critical care medicine. Anesthesiologists diagnose

and treat acute, long standing, and cancer pain problems; diagnose and treat patients with critical illnesses or severe injuries; direct resuscitation in the care of patients with cardiac or respiratory emergencies, including the need for artificial ventilation; and supervise post anesthesia recovery. They determine the type of anesthetics to be used, administer general and local anesthetics.

Physician training programs in the United States, without exception, require four years of residency training for board certification eligibility in the specialty of anesthesiology, typically one year of general medical or surgical training followed by three years of clinical anesthesiology training under the tutelage of experienced anesthesiologists. After residency, many anesthesiologists complete an additional fellowship year of subspecialty training in areas such as pain management, cardiac anesthesiology, pediatric anesthesiology, neuro anesthesiology, obstetric anesthesiology or critical care medicine. The majority of Anesthesiologists are board-certified by a specialty medical board; either the American Board of Anesthesiology or the American Osteopathic Board of Anesthesiology.

### **(CARDIOLOGY-INTERVENTIONAL)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats structural heart and cardiovascular system diseases. Interventional/invasive cardiology is a branch of Internal Medicine within the medical specialty of cardiology that deals specifically with the catheter based treatment of structural heart diseases. An Interventional Cardiologist is a physician (MD or DO) who is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with a certificate of special qualification in Cardiovascular Disease and a certificate of added qualification in Interventional Cardiology.

A large number of procedures performed in interventional cardiology are by catheterization. Procedures include angioplasty, valvuloplasty, congenital heart defect correction, percutaneous valve replacement, coronary thrombectomy, cardiac ablation. Note: Surgery of the heart is done by the specialty of cardiothoracic surgery. Some interventional cardiology procedures are only performed when there is cardiothoracic surgery expertise readily available in the event of complications.

### **(CARDIOLOGY-NON-INVASIVE)**

(Uses non-invasive modalities for diagnosis). Cardiology is a subspecialty area of Internal Medicine as recognized by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine and deals with disorders of the heart, lungs and blood vessels. Typically practitioners have a certificate of special qualification in Cardiovascular Disease. Physicians specializing in this field are called cardiologists and manage complex cardiac conditions such as heart attacks and life-threatening, abnormal heartbeat rhythms. The field includes diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart defects, coronary artery disease, heart failure, valvular heart disease and electrophysiology. Cardiologists should not be confused with cardiac surgeons, who perform cardiac operative procedures on the heart and great vessels.

### **(CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY)**

Cardiothoracic surgery is the field of medicine involved in surgical treatment of diseases affecting organs inside the thorax (the chest), and involves the treatment of conditions of the heart (heart disease) and lungs (lung disease). Included is the surgical care of coronary artery disease, cancers of the lung, esophagus and chest wall, abnormalities of the trachea, abnormalities of the great vessels and heart valves, congenital anomalies, tumors of the

mediastinum, and diseases of the diaphragm. The management of the airway and injuries of the chest is within the scope of the specialty. Cardiac surgery is surgery on the heart and/or great vessels. Surgery is performed to treat complications of ischemic heart disease (for example, coronary artery-bypass grafting), correct congenital heart disease, or treat valvular heart disease created by various causes including endocarditis. This specialty also includes heart transplantation.

Thoracic surgeons have the knowledge, experience and technical skills to accurately diagnose, operate, and effectively manage patients with thoracic diseases of the chest. This requires substantial knowledge of cardio-respiratory physiology and oncology, as well as capability in the use of heart assist devices, management of abnormal heart rhythms and drainage of the chest cavity, respiratory support systems, endoscopy, and invasive and noninvasive diagnostic techniques. Practitioners are certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

### **(COLORECTAL SURGERY)**

Physicians specializing in this field of medicine are known as Colorectal Surgeons, or less commonly, Proctologists. Colorectal surgery deals with disorders of the rectum or anus. These Physicians are trained to diagnose and treat various diseases of the intestinal tract, colon, rectum, anal canal, and perianal area by medical and surgical means. This specialty also deals with other organs and tissues (such as the liver, urinary, and female reproductive system) involved with primary intestinal disease. Practitioners treat problems of the intestine and colon, and perform endoscopic procedures to evaluate and treat problems such as cancer, polyps, and inflammatory conditions.

Some surgeons (MDs) are certified by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery while some osteopathic surgeons (DOs), which are also equally licensed Proctologists, are certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Proctology.

### **(CRITICAL CARE)**

This specialty treats patients requiring intensive monitoring while receiving life support/organ support due to critical illness. Patients may also receive intensive/invasive monitoring (e.g., immediately after major surgery) when deemed too unstable to transfer to a less intensively monitored unit.

Physicians who have training in critical care medicine are referred to as intensivists. The specialty requires additional fellowship training for physicians who complete their primary residency training in internal medicine, anesthesiology, or surgery. They diagnose, treat and support patients with multiple organ dysfunction. They are certified by the American Board of either Internal Medicine or Anesthesiology with a certificate of special qualification in Critical Care Medicine.

### **(DERMATOLOGY)**

Dermatology is the branch of medicine dealing with the skin and its diseases and has both medical and surgical aspects. A Dermatologist diagnoses and treats pediatric and adult patients with benign and malignant disorders of the skin, mouth, external genitalia, hair, and nails. They treat skin cancers, melanomas, moles, and other tumors of the skin, as well as a number of

sexually transmitted diseases. They manage contact dermatitis, and other allergic and nonallergic skin disorders, as well as in the recognition of the skin manifestation of systemic and infectious diseases. They also contend with cosmetic disorders of the skin such as hair loss and scars, and the skin changes associated with aging.

A Dermatologist has special training in dermatopathology and in the surgical techniques used in dermatology. Physicians specializing in dermatology first receive a medical degree (M.D. or D.O.), an initial medical or surgical intern year followed by a three year dermatology residency. The length of training for a general dermatologist is therefore a total of four years. Following this training, one or two year post-residency fellowships are available in immunodermatology, phototherapy, laser medicine, Mohs micrographic surgery, cosmetic surgery or dermatopathology. Dermatologists may be certified by the American Board of Dermatology.

### **(EMERGENCY MEDICINE)**

Emergency medicine is a medical specialty involved in a full spectrum of undifferentiated physical and behavioral disorders associated with the initial evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, and disposition of any patient requiring expeditious medical, surgical, or psychiatric care. It also deals with the prevention, diagnosis and management of acute and urgent aspects of illness and injury. It encompasses an understanding of the development of pre-hospital and in-hospital emergency medical systems and the skills necessary for their development. It focuses on the immediate decision making and action necessary to prevent death or any further disability both in the pre-hospital setting by directing emergency medical technicians and in the emergency department. Practitioners provide immediate recognition, evaluation, care, stabilization and disposition of a generally diversified population of adult and pediatric patients. Certification is via the American Board of Emergency Medicine.

### **(ENDOCRINOLOGY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases of the hormone producing glands of the body, including the thyroid, parathyroid, pituitary, adrenal, pancreas, and the gonads. Endocrinology is a subspecialty of Internal Medicine with practitioners initially certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Certification in Endocrinology requires additional training and examination in a fellowship. An Endocrinologist concentrates on disorders of the internal (endocrine) glands such as the thyroid and adrenal glands. This specialist also deals with disorders such as diabetes, metabolic and nutritional disorders, obesity, pituitary diseases, and menstrual and sexual problems.

### **(FAMILY PRACTICE)**

Practitioners of this specialty examine, diagnose, treat and/or concern themselves with related total health care of an individual and the family. They provide comprehensive and continuing health and medical care services, e.g., diagnosis, prevention, therapy, maintenance and rehabilitation, to family members, as well as emphasize comprehensive continuing family-oriented health and medical care services. NOTE: positions in general practice emphasize episodic, remedial services. "Family" practice refers to the function of the practitioner while general practice refers to the content of his practice. A Family Practice physician is concerned with the total healthcare of the individual and the family and diagnoses and treats a wide variety of ailments in patients of all ages. The Family Practice physician addresses a broad range of

issues that includes adult medicine and care of the aged, the care of children, women's health, maternity care, preventive medicine and behavioral science. Special emphasis is placed on the primary care of families, utilizing consultants and community resources when appropriate.

Certification is provided by the American Board of Family Medicine. Training is focused on treating an individual throughout their life stages. Family physicians complete medical school and 3 more years of specialized medical residency training in Family Practice. Board Certified Family Physicians retake a board-like exam every 6-7 years to remain certified.

### **(GASTROENTEROLOGY)**

Gastroenterology is the branch of medicine whereby the digestive system and its disorders are studied. This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases of the digestive tract, including the stomach, bowel, liver and pancreas. Diseases affecting the gastrointestinal tract, which includes the organs from mouth to anus, along the alimentary canal, are the focus of this specialty. This Physician specializes in diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the digestive organs including the stomach, bowels, liver, and gallbladder. Gastroenterologists treat conditions such as abdominal pain, ulcers, diarrhea, cancer, and jaundice and they perform complex diagnostic and therapeutic procedures using endoscopes to see internal organs.

Gastroenterology is a sub-specialty of Internal Medicine and someone practicing this field of medicine is called a Gastroenterologist. They are generally certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with a certificate of special qualification in Gastroenterology.

### **(GENERAL PRACTITIONER)**

A General Practitioner is a physician whose practice is not oriented to a specific medical specialty but instead covers a variety of medical problems in patients of all ages. This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents all diseases and related total health care of individuals and families. It also may involve performing minor surgical procedures. It may also include referring patients to appropriate specialists.

A General Practitioner has completed a one year internship required to obtain a medical license and have not completed a Residency in any specialty.

### **(GENERAL SURGERY)**

General surgery is a surgical specialty that focuses on abdominal organs, such as intestines including esophagus, stomach, small bowel, colon, liver, pancreas, gallbladder and bile ducts, and the thyroid gland (depending on the availability of other specialists), breast surgery, etc. A General Surgeon also performs invasive procedures that deal with hernias, and diseases involving the skin but may perform additional procedures as necessary. A general surgeon is expected to be familiar with the salient features of other surgical specialties in order to recognize problems in those areas and to know when to refer a patient to another specialist. They may assist surgical specialists in performing specialized surgery (e.g., thoracic, plastic, orthopedic).

General Surgeons are Physicians with medical school degrees such as MD, MBBS, MBChB, or DO degrees, that have completed a five or six-year residency. Completion of a residency in general surgery leads to eligibility for board certification by the American Board of Surgery,

which is also required upon completion of training for a general surgeon to have operating privileges at most hospitals. The surgeon uses a variety of diagnostic techniques, including endoscopy, for observing internal structures, and may use specialized instruments during operative procedures. General surgery may be a prerequisite for additional training in a surgery subspecialty.

### **(GERIATRICS)**

Practitioners of this specialty examine, diagnose, treat and/or attempt to prevent diseases of the elderly. Geriatrics is a subspecialty of Family Practice or Internal Medicine.

A Geriatrician utilizes special knowledge of the aging process and special skills in the diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive and rehabilitative aspects of illness in the elderly. This specialist cares for geriatric patients in the patient's home, the office, long-term care settings such as nursing homes and the hospital.

Certification in Geriatrics requires additional training and examination. Certification is thus either by the American Board of Family Practice or the American Board of Internal Medicine.

### **(GYNECOLOGY)**

A Gynecologist is typically certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. They possess special knowledge, skills, and professional capability in the medical health and surgical care of the female reproductive system (uterus, vagina and ovaries), and associated disorders. This physician serves as a consultant to other physicians, and sometimes as a primary care physician for women. Most are also obstetricians as well.

### **(HEMATOLOGY-ONCOLOGY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents all diseases and injuries of the blood and blood-forming organs and tissues (including cancers of all types in adult patients and disorders of the blood) such as anemia, leukemia and lymphoma. A Hematologist is an internist with additional training who specializes in diseases of the blood, spleen, and lymph glands. This specialist treats conditions such as anemia, clotting disorders, sickle cell disease, hemophilia, leukemia, and lymphoma. A Medical Oncologist is an internist who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of all types of cancer and other benign and malignant tumors, and decides on and administers chemotherapy for malignancy, as well as consulting with surgeons and radiotherapists on other treatments for cancer.

Hematology and Medical Oncology practitioners are generally certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with certificates of special qualification in Hematology and Medical Oncology.

### **(HOSPITALIST)**

A Physician whose primary professional focus is the general medical care of hospitalized patients. Hospitalists may engage in clinical care, teaching, research or leadership in the field of general hospital medicine. This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats hospitalized patients as their "case manager". Is responsible for treatment management to ensure that a patient with multiple medical problems, receiving medication and treatment from multiple specialists, does not receive conflicting care, e.g., medications prescribed by one specialist having an adverse impact on a problem being treated by a different specialist; different specialists ordering the

same test repeated, or a needed diagnostic test ignored when each specialist thinks the other would order it.

### **(INFECTIOUS DISEASE)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents infectious diseases and injuries of all types. An Infectious Disease physician provides long-term, comprehensive care in the office and in the hospital, managing both common and complex illnesses of adolescents, adults and the elderly. Internists are trained in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, infections and diseases affecting the heart, blood, kidneys, joints and the digestive, respiratory and vascular systems. They are also trained in the essentials of primary care internal medicine, which incorporates an understanding of disease prevention, wellness, substance abuse, mental health and effective treatment of common problems of the eyes, ears, skin, nervous system and reproductive organs. This physician often diagnoses and treats AIDS patients and patients with fevers which have not been explained. Infectious disease specialists may also have expertise in preventive medicine and travel medicine.

### **(INTERNAL MEDICINE)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases and total health care of adults, usually 18 years of age and older. An Internist is a personal physician who provides long-term, comprehensive care managing both common and complex illnesses of adolescents, adults and the elderly. Internists are trained in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, infections and diseases affecting the heart, blood, kidneys, joints and the digestive, respiratory and vascular systems. They are also trained in the essentials of primary care internal medicine, which incorporates an understanding of disease prevention, wellness, substance abuse, mental health and effective treatment of common problems of the eyes, ears, skin, nervous system and reproductive organs. Certification is provided by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

### **(NEPHROLOGY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases of the kidney and hypertension, and provides renal replacement therapy (to include dialysis) for kidney failure.. A Nephrologist is a physician who has been trained in the diagnosis and management of kidney disease, by regulating blood pressure, regulating electrolytes, balancing fluids in the body, and administering dialysis. Nephrologists treat many different kidney disorders including acid-base disorders, electrolyte disorders, nephrolithiasis (kidney stones), hypertension (high blood pressure), acute kidney disease and end-stage renal disease. Nephrology is a subspecialty of internal medicine. This specialist also consults with surgeons about kidney transplantation.

In the United States, after medical school, nephrologists complete a three year residency in internal medicine followed by a two year to three year fellowship in nephrology. Nephrologists also must be certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with a certificate of special qualification in Nephrology.

### **(NEUROLOGY)**

A Neurologist specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of all types of disease or impaired function of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves, muscles and autonomic nervous system, as well as the blood vessels that relate to these structures. Practitioners are certified by the

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Certification in the subspecialty of Clinical Neurophysiology, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, Neuromuscular Medicine, Pain Medicine, Sleep Medicine or Vascular Neurology requires additional training and examination.

### **(NEUROSURGERY)**

This specialty provides the operative and non-operative management (i.e., prevention, diagnosis, evaluation, treatment, critical care, and rehabilitation) of disorders of the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems, including their supporting structures and vascular supply; the evaluation and treatment of pathological processes that modify the function or activity of the nervous system, including the hypothalamus; and the operative and non-operative management of pain. As such, Neurological Surgery encompasses the surgical, non-surgical, and stereotactic radio surgical treatment of adult and pediatric patients with disorders of the nervous system: disorders of the brain, meninges, skull, and skull base, and their blood supply, including the surgical and endovascular treatment of disorders of the intracranial and extracranial vasculature supply the brain and spinal cord; disorders of the pituitary gland; disorders of the spinal cord, meninges, and vertebral column, including those that may require treatment by fusion, instrumentation, or endovascular techniques; and disorders of the cranial, peripheral, and spinal nerves throughout their distribution.

Neurosurgeons typically have completed four years of pre-medical education (typically an undergraduate degree in the biological sciences), four years of medical school, and six to eight years of neurosurgical residency training (including the intern year). Neurosurgeons may also elect to complete a fellowship of one to two additional years in a neurosurgical subspecialty (pediatrics, oncology, endovascular, spine, functional, etc.). They are certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery.

### **(NUCLEAR MEDICINE)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses and treats diseases (e.g., cancers and heart disease) using radionuclides, radiopharmaceuticals and radioactive decay processes to image the body and treat diseases. It includes both the body's physiology and anatomy in establishing diagnosis and treatment. Nuclear Medicine Physicians are medical imaging specialists that use tracers, usually radiopharmaceuticals, for diagnosis and therapy. They employ the properties of radioactive atoms and molecules in the diagnosis and treatment of disease, and in research. They have knowledge in the biologic effects of radiation exposure, the fundamentals of the physical sciences, and the principles and operation of radiation detection and imaging instrumentation systems. Nuclear medicine procedures are the major clinical applications of molecular imaging and molecular therapy.

In the United States, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education accredits nuclear medicine residency programs, and the American Board of Nuclear Medicine certifies nuclear medicine physicians. After completing medical school, a post-graduate clinical year is followed by three years of nuclear medicine residency. A common alternate path for physicians who have completed a radiology residency is a one year residency in nuclear medicine. A less common path for physicians who have completed another residency is a two year residency in nuclear medicine.



**(OBSTETRICS)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats women with normal and abnormal pregnancies including prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal care. This physician serves as a consultant to other physicians, and often as a primary physician for women. Obstetrics is the surgical specialty dealing with the care of women and their children during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. Obstetricians possess special knowledge, skills, and professional capability in the medical and surgical care of the female reproductive system and associated disorders. All Obstetricians are trained gynecologists, although the reverse is not necessarily true. An Obstetrician is typically certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

**(OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE)**

This specialty is primarily involved with preventive medicine programs pertaining to employees and their work environment. It applies specifically in the development of programs and activities to control occupational health hazards and to encourage employees to maintain sound personal health. This includes protecting employees against health hazards in their work environment; facilitating and insuring the suitable placement of employees according to their physical capacities, mental and emotional make-up, in work which they can perform with an acceptable degree of efficiency; assuring adequate medical care and rehabilitation of the occupationally ill and injured; and encouraging employee personal health maintenance.

Occupational/Environmental Medicine is a sub-specialty of Preventative Medicine. Practitioners may be certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. A significant amount of time is spent on the control of environmental factors that may adversely affect health or the control and prevention of occupational factors that may adversely affect health safety. This specialist works with large population groups as well as with individual patients to promote health and understand the risks of disease, injury, disability, and death, seeking to modify and eliminate these risks.

**(ONCOLOGY-HEMATOLOGY)**

See HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY

**(OPHTHALMOLOGY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases and injuries of the eye. Ophthalmology is the branch of medicine which deals with the diseases and surgery of the visual pathways, including the eye, brain, and areas surrounding the eye, such as the orbit, the lacrimal system, the visual pathways, and eyelids. Ophthalmologists are medically trained to diagnose, monitor, and medically or surgically treat all ocular and visual disorders. An ophthalmologist also prescribes vision services, including glasses and contact lenses.

Physicians may hold a Doctor of Osteopathy or a Doctor of Medicine degree. Ophthalmologists train in medical residency programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and are then board certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. Four to five years of residency training after medical school are required, with the first year being an internship in surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, or a general transition year. Completing the requirements of continuing medical education is mandatory for continuing licensure and re-certification.

### **(ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents by medical and/or surgical means, diseases and injuries of the bones, joints, muscles and tendons. Subspecialties also include hand, spine, adult joint reconstruction, sports medicine, shoulder and elbow, foot and ankle, pediatric orthopaedics, musculoskeletal oncology, and extremity trauma expertise. Orthopedic surgeons are trained in the preservation, investigation and restoration of the form and function of the extremities, spine, and associated structures by medical, surgical, and physical means. They treat both children and adults. This medical specialty is involved with the care of patients whose musculoskeletal problems include congenital deformities, trauma, infections, tumors, metabolic disturbances of the musculoskeletal system, deformities, injuries, and degenerative diseases of the spine, hands, feet, knee, hip, shoulder, and elbow.

Orthopedic surgeons have typically completed four years of undergraduate education and four years of medical school. Subsequently, orthopedic surgeons undergo residency training in orthopedic surgery. The five-year residency consists of one year of general surgery training followed by four years of training in orthopedic surgery. After completion of specialty residency/registrar training, an orthopedic surgeon is then eligible for board certification. Practitioners are certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery. Specialists in the subspecialties of hand surgery and sports medicine may obtain a Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ).

### **(OTOLARYNGOLOGY)**

Otolaryngology is the branch of medicine that provides comprehensive medical and surgical care for patients with diseases and disorders that affect the ears, nose, throat, the respiratory and upper alimentary systems, and related structures of the head and neck. Diagnosis, treatment and surgery may involve prevention of diseases, allergies, neoplasms, deformities, disorders and/or injuries of the ears, nose, sinuses, throat, respiratory and upper alimentary systems, face, jaws, and the other head and neck systems, head and neck oncology, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, and the treatment of disorders of hearing and voice.

Practitioners are called Otolaryngologists-head and neck surgeons, or sometimes Otorhinolaryngologists (ORL). A commonly used term for this specialty is ENT (ear, nose and throat). Otolaryngologists are medical doctors (MD, DO, MBBS, MBChB, etc.) who, generally complete at least five years of surgical residency training. This is typically comprised of one year in general surgical training and four years in otolaryngology - head and neck surgery.

### **(PATHOLOGY)**

This specialty examines and diagnoses tissues and specimens removed by biopsy, surgery and autopsy to diagnose normal from diseased tissues and specimens; supervises and interprets laboratory tests on blood, urine and other body fluids including hematology, bacteriology, serology, chemistry, parasitological, blood transfusion, diagnostic radioisotopes, and therapeutic chemical radioisotopes. Anatomical pathology is one of the two major divisions of pathology, the other being clinical pathology. Often, pathologists practice both anatomical and clinical pathology, a combination sometimes known as general pathology. The American Board of Pathology provides a certification for Combined Anatomic and Clinical Pathology.

Anatomical pathology is a medical specialty that is concerned with the diagnosis of disease based on the gross, microscopic, chemical, immunologic and molecular examination of organs, tissues, and whole bodies (autopsy). The American Board of Pathology approves a residency program and certification as it is usually required to obtain employment or hospital privileges.

Clinical pathology is a medical specialty that is concerned with the diagnosis of disease based on the laboratory analysis of bodily fluids such as blood and urine, and tissues using the tools of chemistry, microbiology, hematology and molecular pathology. Clinical pathologists work in close collaboration with medical technologists, hospital administrations and referring physicians to insure the accuracy and optimal utilization of laboratory testing.

### **(PEDIATRICS)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents all diseases and related total health care of newborns, infants, children and adolescents, and young adults up to college age, typically 23 years of age,. Care may also include young adults, typically with disabilities, who have required care from childhood for certain conditions. A medical practitioner who specializes in this area is known as a Pediatrician. A pediatrician is concerned with a broad spectrum of health services ranging from preventative health care to the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. A pediatrician deals with biological, social, and environmental influences on the developing child, and with the impact of disease and dysfunction on development. A pediatrician may specialize in adolescent medicine is a multi-disciplinary health care specialist trained in the unique physical, psychological, and social characteristics of adolescents, their health care problems and needs in a number of other subspecialties.

Pediatrician's hold a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) or Doctor of Osteopathic medicine (D.O.) degree and are further certified by the American board of Pediatrics. Pediatricians must undertake three to six years of training past the medical degree.

### **(PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION)**

Physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R), or physiatry, is a branch of medicine which aims to enhance and restore functional ability and quality of life to those with physical impairments or disabilities. A physician who has completed training in this field is referred to as a physiatrist. Physiatrists specialize in restoring optimal function to people with injuries to the muscles, bones, tissues, and nervous system (such as stroke patients). Rehabilitation physicians are nerve, muscle, and bone experts who treat injuries or illnesses that affect how you move. Rehabilitation physicians treat a wide range of problems from sore shoulders to spinal cord injuries. Their goal is to decrease pain and enhance performance without surgery. They accurately pinpoint the source of an ailment then design a treatment plan that can be carried out by the patients themselves or with the help of the rehabilitation physician's medical team. This medical team might include other physicians and health professionals, such as neurologists, orthopedic surgeons, and physical therapists.

In order to be a physiatrist, one must complete four years of medical school, one year of internship and three years of residency.

**(PLASTIC SURGERY)**

Plastic surgery is a medical specialty that deals with the repair, reconstruction, or replacement of physical defects of form or function involving the skin, musculoskeletal system, craniomaxillofacial structures, hand, extremities, breast and trunk, external genitalia or cosmetic enhancement of these areas of the body. Cosmetic surgery is an essential component of plastic surgery. The plastic surgeon uses cosmetic surgical principles both to improve overall appearance and to optimize the outcome of reconstructive procedures. Special knowledge and skill in the design and surgery of grafts, flaps, free tissue transfer and replantation is necessary. Competence in the management of complex wounds, the use of implantable materials, and in tumor surgery is required. Plastic surgeons have been prominent in the development of innovative techniques such as microvascular and craniomaxillofacial surgery, liposuction, and tissue transfer.

A practitioner is a medical doctor with specialized training in general surgery and plastic surgery and is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

**(PREVENTIVE MEDICINE)**

Preventive Medicine is a medical specialty where Physicians work with large population groups as well as with individual patients to promote health and understand the risks of disease, injury, disability and death, seeking to modify and eliminate these risks. Distinctive components of preventive medicine include the use of biostatistics and the application of bio-statistical principles and methodology, epidemiology and its application to population-based medicine and research, health services management and administration including: developing, assessing, and assuring health policies. Incumbents also plan, implement, direct, budget and evaluate population health and disease management programs. They utilize legislative and regulatory processes to enhance health and control environmental factors that may adversely affect health. Clinical preventive medicine activities include measures to promote health and prevent the occurrence, progression and disabling effects of disease and injury as well as the assessment of social, cultural and behavioral influences on health.

Practitioners of preventive medicine are certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. Certification in the subspecialty of Medical Toxicology or Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine requires additional training and examination.

**(PRIMARY CARE)**

A primary care physician is a generalist physician who provides definitive care to the undifferentiated patient at the point of first contact and takes continuing responsibility for providing the patient's care. Such a physician must be specifically trained to provide primary care services. Primary care physicians devote the majority of their practice to providing primary care services to a defined population of patients. The style of primary care practice is such that the personal primary care physician serves as the entry point for substantially all of the patient's medical and health care needs - not limited by problem origin, organ system, or diagnosis. Primary care physicians are advocates for the patient in coordinating the use of the entire health care system to benefit the patient.

Family physicians provide services commonly recognized as primary care. However, the terms, "primary care" and "family medicine" are not interchangeable. "Primary care" does not fully describe the activities of family physicians nor the practice of family medicine. Similarly, primary care departments do not replace the form or function of family medicine departments.

### **(PSYCHIATRY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats diseases affecting mental health including the brain, nervous system, substance abuse of drugs or chemicals and personality disturbances.

Psychiatrists are medical doctors (MBBS, MD, DO, etc) who specialize in treating mental illness using the biomedical approach to mental disorders, including psychotherapies. A psychiatrist specializes in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, additive, and emotional disorders such as schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, substance-related disorders, sexual and gender identity disorders, and adjustment disorders. A psychiatrist is able to understand the biologic, psychological, and social components of illness, and therefore is uniquely prepared to treat the whole person. A psychiatrist is qualified to order diagnostic laboratory tests and to prescribe medications, evaluate and treat psychological and interpersonal problems, and to intervene with families who are coping with stress, crises, and other problems in living. A Psychiatrist is generally certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

### **(PULMONARY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, treats and/or prevents diseases of the lungs. These physicians treat diseases of the lungs and airways. They diagnose and treat cancer, pneumonia, pleurisy, asthma, occupational diseases, bronchitis, sleep disorders, emphysema, and other complex disorders of the lungs. They also serve as an expert on mechanical ventilation and in critical care medicine.

Physicians specializing in pulmonology first receive a medical degree (MD or DO), complete residency training in Internal Medicine (3 years), and then complete at least 2 additional years of subspecialty fellowship training in pulmonology. After satisfactorily completing a fellowship in pulmonary medicine, they are permitted to take the board certification examination in pulmonary medicine. After passing this exam, they are considered "board certified". Most pulmonologists complete 3 years of combined subspecialty fellowship training in pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. Certification may be by the American Board of Internal Medicine with a certificate of special qualification in Pulmonary Diseases.

### **(RADIATION ONCOLOGY)**

Radiation Oncology (also known as Therapeutic Radiology) is the treatment of cancer and other diseases with radiation. High energy x-rays are used to kill the cancer cells by preventing them from multiplying. The level of radiation will be determined by the Radiation Oncologist based on the type of cancer, location of the tumor, and sensitivity of the surrounding tissue. The Practitioner typically utilizes external beam therapy and/or brachytherapy but may use other forms of radiation in the treatment process. Radiation can be given as a curative modality, either alone or in combination with surgery and/or chemotherapy. It may also be used palliatively, to relieve symptoms in patients with incurable cancers. Radiation oncologists work closely with

other physicians such as surgical oncologists, other surgeons, internal medicine subspecialists and medical oncologists, as part of the multi-disciplinary cancer team.

Radiation Oncologists obtain a medical degree, serve an internship and then undergo four years of residency. During this time they learn about oncology, the physics and biology of ionizing radiation, and the treatment of cancer patients with radiation. After completion of this training, a radiation oncologist may undergo certification by the American Board of Radiology.

### **(RADIOLOGY)**

This specialty examines pathological conditions with X-rays, other electromagnetic radiation, ultrasound and radioactive isotopes; interprets general radiographic exams, mammograms, ultrasound, CT, MRI, and other medical imaging techniques; and performs diagnostic and therapeutic image-guided interventional procedures and some radioisotope therapies. Diagnostic Radiology is performed by a medical doctor with specialized training but is distinguished from Interventional Radiology, which is a subspecialty of radiology. Interventional radiology is the performance of (usually minimally invasive) medical procedures with the guidance of imaging technologies. Radiologists direct an array of imaging technologies (such as ultrasound, computed tomography (CT) Computed Axial Tomography, nuclear medicine, Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)) to diagnose or treat disease.

Diagnostic Radiologists must complete prerequisite undergraduate training, four years of medical school, and five years of post-graduate training. They are trained in the science and technology of ultrasounds, CTs, x-rays, nuclear medicine, and MRI. Core knowledge of the radiologist includes radiobiology which is the study of the effects of ionizing radiation on living tissue. Radiologists may be certified by the American Board of Radiology.

Following completion of residency training, radiologists either begin their practice or enter into sub-specialty training programs known as fellowships. Examples of sub-specialty training in radiology include abdominal imaging, thoracic imaging, CT/Ultrasound, MRI, musculoskeletal imaging, interventional radiology, neuroradiology, interventional neuroradiology, pediatric radiology, mammography and women's imaging. Fellowship training programs in radiology are usually 1 or 2 years in length.

### **(RADIOLOGY-INTERVENTIONAL)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats pathology using image guidance procedures with the most minimally invasive techniques (e.g., catheters) such as angiograms and angioplasty. Radiology is a medical specialty that involves the study and application of imaging technology such as x-ray, radionuclides, ultrasound, and electromagnetic radiation to diagnose and treat disease. Interventional Radiology (abbreviated IR or sometimes VIR for vascular and interventional radiology) is a subspecialty of radiology in which minimally invasive procedures are performed using imaging technologies. Some of these procedures are done for purely diagnostic purposes (e.g., angiogram), while others are done for treatment purposes (e.g., angioplasty). Pictures (images) are used to direct these procedures, which are usually done with needles or catheters. The images allow for guidance of instruments through the body to the areas of interest.

Interventional Radiologists are physicians who have completed a five year diagnostic radiology residency program as well as a one year fellowship in vascular & interventional radiology. Radiologists may be certified by the American Board of Radiology.

### **(REFRACTIVE SURGERY)**

This eye surgery is used to improve the refractive state of the eye and decrease the need for glasses. The most common methods today use lasers to reshape the cornea. Refractive eye surgeons are Ophthalmologists that have received specialization in refractive eye surgery and practice a variety of procedures that improve the refractive state of the eye and decrease or eliminate dependency on glasses or contact lenses. This can include various methods of surgical remodeling of the cornea or cataract surgery. The most common methods use lasers to reshape curvature of the cornea. Successful refractive eye surgery can reduce or cure common vision disorders such as myopia, hyperopia and astigmatism.

Practitioners in this medical specialty have graduated from an approved medical school, are certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology, and are often further certified by the American Board of Eye Surgery for specific procedures.

### **(RHEUMATOLOGY)**

Rheumatologists treat arthritis, certain autoimmune diseases, musculoskeletal pain disorders and osteoporosis. There are more than 200 types of these diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, lupus, back pain, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia and tendinitis. Some of these are very serious diseases that can be difficult to diagnose and treat. They treat soft tissue problems related to musculoskeletal system sports related soft tissue disorders and the specialty is also interrelated with physiotherapy, physical medicine and rehabilitation of disabled patients. Patient education programs and occupational therapy also go hand in hand with this specialty.

A Rheumatologist is a clinician specialized in the field of medical sub-specialty called rheumatology, and holds either a Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.) or a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree (D.O.). Training in this field requires four years undergraduate school, four years of medical school, and then, in the United States, three years of residency, followed by two or three years additional Fellowship training. The number of years allocated for specialized training in rheumatology for postgraduate trainees in different countries could vary according to the requirements of different countries. Rheumatologists are internists, physicians or pediatricians who are qualified by additional postgraduate training and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of arthritis and other diseases of the joints, muscles and bones. Many rheumatologists also conduct research to determine the cause and better treatments for these disabling and sometimes fatal diseases.

### **(THERAPEUTIC RADIOLOGY)**

A subspecialty of medical oncology and radiology concerned with the radiotherapy of cancer. This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats diseases by application of roentgen rays, radium, and radioactive isotopes. (See also the definition for Radiation Oncology).

### **(TRAUMA-CRITICAL CARE SURGERY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats by surgical means, physical injuries typically encountered in an emergency setting. The surgeon is responsible for the initial resuscitation and stabilization of the patient and subsequent evaluation. Most patients have multiple injuries involving different organ systems requiring a significant number of diagnostic studies and operative procedures.

A Trauma Surgeon or Critical Care Surgeon is a Physician that performs trauma surgery and is certified by the American Board of Surgery with special certification in critical care surgery. Practitioners have expertise in the management of the critically ill and postoperative patients, particularly the trauma victim, and specialize in critical care medicine diagnoses. They treat and support patients with multiple organ dysfunction. This specialist may have administrative responsibilities for intensive care units and may also facilitate and coordinate patient care among the primary physician, the critical care staff, and other specialists.

### **(UNDERSEA MEDICINE)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats and/or prevents conditions caused by humans entering the undersea environment. It includes the effects on the body of pressure on gases, the diagnosis and treatment of conditions caused by marine hazards and how relationships of a diver's fitness to dive affect a diver's safety. (NOTE: hyperbaric medicine is associated with diving, since recompression in a hyperbaric chamber is used as a treatment for two of the most significant diving related illnesses, decompression illness and arterial gas embolism).

### **(UROLOGIC SURGERY)**

Physicians specializing in the field of urology are called urologists and are trained to diagnose, treat, and manage patients with urological disorders. Urology combines management of medical (i.e. non-surgical) problems such as urinary infections, and surgical problems such as the correction of congenital abnormalities and the surgical management of cancers and adrenal gland. Such abnormalities within the genital region are called genitourinary disorders. This specialist has comprehensive knowledge and skills associated with endoscopic, percutaneous, and open surgery of congenital and acquired conditions of the urinary and reproductive systems and their contiguous structures. The organs covered by urology include the kidneys, ureters, urinary bladder, urethra, and the male reproductive organs (testes, epididymis, vas deferens, seminal vesicles, prostate and penis). Practitioners are certified by the American Board of Urology.

### **(UROLOGY)**

This specialty examines, diagnoses, and treats and/or prevents diseases and disorders of the kidneys, urethras, urinary bladder, testes, epididymis, vas deferens, seminal vesicles, prostate and penis. Urology combines non-surgical medical problems (e.g., urinary tract infections and benign prostatic hyperplasia) with surgical management of cancers, the correction of congenital abnormalities, and correcting stress incontinence.

### **(VASCULAR SURGERY)**

Vascular surgery is a specialty of surgery in which diseases of the vascular system, or arteries and veins, are managed by medical therapy, minimally-invasive catheter procedures, and surgical



reconstruction. The vascular surgeon is trained in the diagnosis and management of diseases affecting all parts of the vascular system except that of the heart and brain.

Practitioners are certified by the American Board of Surgery with a certificate of added qualification in General Vascular Surgery.

The following functional specializations are examples of parentheticals currently being utilized, however, they are not authorized medical specializations as identified in DoDi 1400.25, Volume 543, dated August 18, 2010:

- (Administration)
- (Admitting Physician)
- (Board Certified)
- (Clinical Investigations)
- (Combat Development)
- (Cytopathology)
- (Disability Evaluation)
- (Executive Health)
- (Forensic Pediatrics, Developmental Pediatrics)
- (Genetics)
- (Immunizations)
- (Medical Evaluation Board)
- (Newborn Medicine)
- (Outpatient)
- (Research) or (Clinical Research)
- (Sleep Medicine)
- (Soldier Readiness)
- (TBI Program Director)
- (Training)
- (Vaccine Health Care)
- (Vocational Counseling)

Basic Title 0602	Authorized Parentheticals
Physician	
Physician	(Aerospace Medicine)
Physician	(Allergy & Immunization)
Physician	(Anesthesiology)
Physician	(Cardiology-Interventional)
Physician	(Cardiology-Non-invasive)
Physician	(Cardiothoracic Surgery)
Physician	(Colorectal Surgery)
Physician	(Critical Care)
Physician	(Dermatology)
Physician	(Emergency Medicine)
Physician	(Endocrinology)
Physician	(Family Practice)
Physician	(Gastroenterology)
Physician	(General Practitioner)
Physician	(General Surgery)
Physician	(Geriatrics)
Physician	(Gynecology)
Physician	(Hematology-Oncology)
Physician	(Hospitalist)
Physician	(Infectious Disease)
Physician	(Internal Medicine)
Physician	(Nephrology)
Physician	(Neurology)
Physician	(Neurosurgery)
Physician	(Nuclear Medicine)
Physician	(Obstetrics)
Physician	(Occupational Medicine)
Physician	(Oncology-Hematology)
Physician	(Ophthalmology)
Physician	(Orthopedic Surgery)
Physician	(Otolaryngology)
Physician	(Pathology)
Physician	(Pediatrics)
Physician	(Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
Physician	(Plastic Surgery)
Physician	(Preventive Medicine)
Physician	(Primary Care)
Physician	(Psychiatry)
Physician	(Pulmonary)
Physician	(Radiation Oncology)

Physician	(Radiology)
Physician	(Radiology-Interventional)
Physician	(Refractive Surgery)
Physician	(Rheumatology)
Physician	(Therapeutic Radiology)
Physician	(Trauma-Critical Care Surgery)
Physician	(Undersea Medicine)
Physician	(Urologic Surgery)
Physician	(Urology)
Physician	(Vascular Surgery)
SUPV Physician	
SUPV Physician	(Aerospace Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Allergy & Immunology)
SUPV Physician	(Anesthesiology)
SUPV Physician	(Cardiology-Interventional)
SUPV Physician	(Cardiology-Non-Invasive)
SUPV Physician	(Cardiothoracic Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Colorectal Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Critical Care)
SUPV Physician	(Dermatology)
SUPV Physician	(Emergency Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Endocrinology)
SUPV Physician	(Family Practice)
SUPV Physician	(Gastroenterology)
SUPV Physician	(General Practitioner)
SUPV Physician	(General Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Geriatrics)
SUPV Physician	(Gynecology)
SUPV Physician	(Hematology-Oncology)
SUPV Physician	(Hospitalist)
SUPV Physician	(Infectious Disease)
SUPV Physician	(Internal Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Nephrology)
SUPV Physician	(Neurology)
SUPV Physician	(Neurosurgery)
SUPV Physician	(Nuclear Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Obstetrics)
SUPV Physician	(Occupational Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Oncology-Hematology)
SUPV Physician	(Ophthalmology)
SUPV Physician	(Orthopedic Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Otolaryngology)
SUPV Physician	(Pathology)

SUPV Physician	(Pediatrics)
SUPV Physician	(Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
SUPV Physician	(Plastic Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Preventive Medicine)
SUPV Physician	(Primary Care)
SUPV Physician	(Psychiatry)
SUPV Physician	(Pulmonary)
SUPV Physician	(Radiation Oncology)
SUPV Physician	(Radiology)
SUPV Physician	(Radiology-Interventional)
SUPV Physician	(Refractive Surgery)
SUPV Physician	(Rheumatology)
SUPV Physician	(Therapeutic Radiology)
SUPV Physician	(Trauma-Critical Care Surgery)
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